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**STOCKTON DRUG DEALER SENTENCED TO OVER 11 YEARS**  
**IN FEDERAL PRISON**

Sacramento--United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that Antonio Ramirez LOZANO, 41, of Stockton, California, was sentenced today by United States District Judge Frank C. Damrell, Jr., to over 11 years in federal prison followed by 5 years of federal supervised release. The defendant had previously pled guilty to possessing with intent to distribute cocaine base (also known as “crack” cocaine) in violation of federal law on July 17, 2006.

This case is the product of an extensive, joint investigation by the Stockton Police Department and the Drug Enforcement Administration (“DEA”).

According to Assistant United States Attorney Jason Hitt, who prosecuted the case, Mr. LOZANO engaged in the large-scale distribution of cocaine, crack cocaine, and methamphetamine in Stockton. LOZANO was caught after a Stockton Police Department narcotics detectives served a search warrant at LOZANO’s residence on 1721 South California Street in Stockton. Inside LOZANO’s house, officers discovered over 2 kilos of powder cocaine, more than 50 grams of crack cocaine, and approximately 45 grams of methamphetamine.

Officers discovered some of LOZANO's drugs stashed in a hidden compartment inside his bedroom bathroom. LOZANO also had a .22 caliber firearm and over \$8,000 in U.S. Currency inside his bedroom. LOZANO admitted to narcotics detectives that he was selling approximately 2 kilos of cocaine every 1 to 2 months and about one-half pound of crack cocaine every week in Stockton.

In sentencing LOZANO to 135 months in federal prison, United States District Judge Damrell said LOZANO had committed a serious offense by distributing a large quantity of drugs out of his family's home and, given the quantity of drugs discovered in LOZANO's home, a 135-month sentence was appropriate to punish his crimes and protect the community.

When prosecuted in federal court, drug traffickers typically receive much harsher sentences than in the state system. In addition to the longer sentences imposed, there is no early release on parole in the federal system. After serving 85 percent their sentence, defendants in the federal system must also serve a period of supervised release in the community.

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